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LONG ASHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

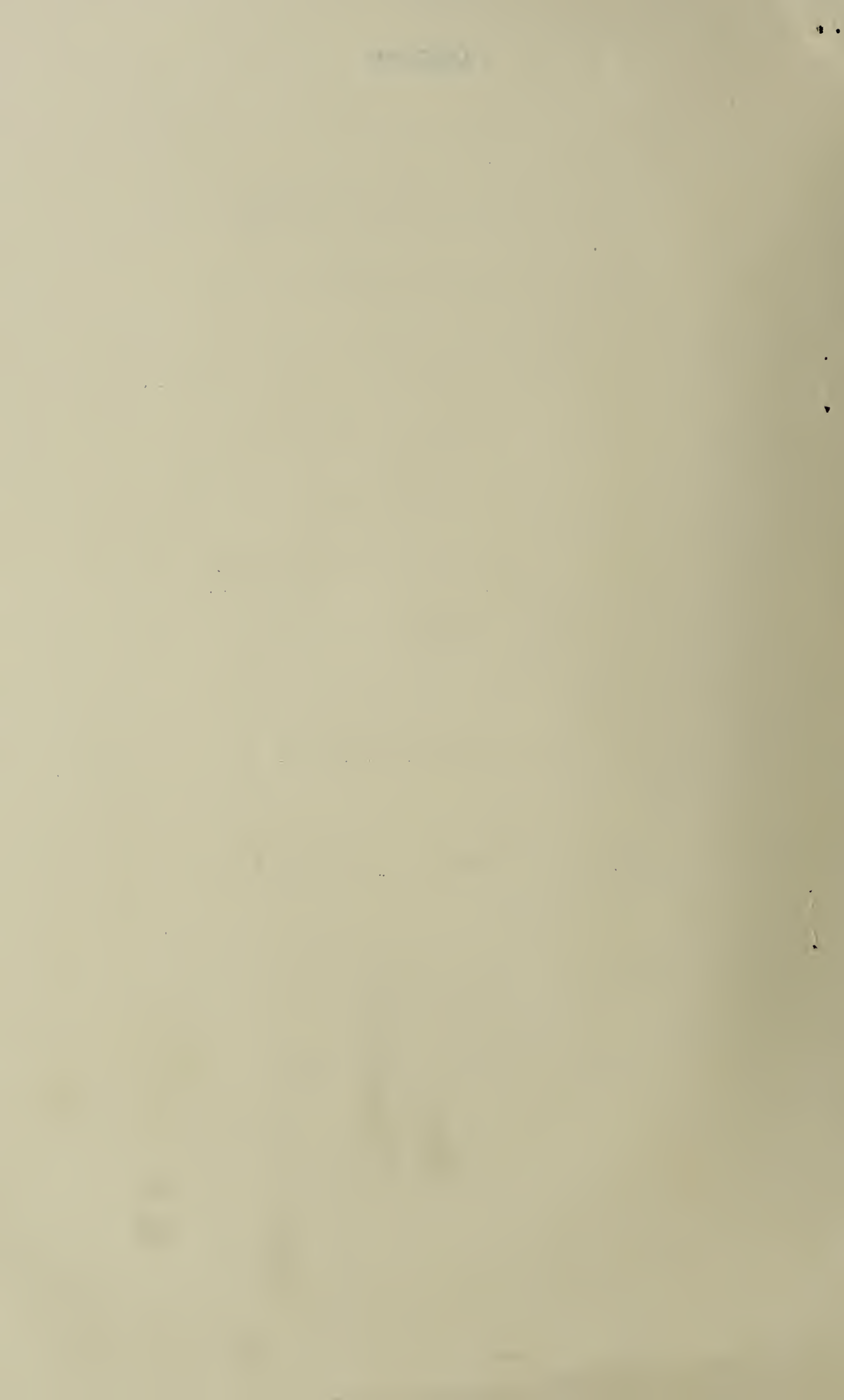
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER 1949.



Medical Officer of Health	- Herbert Newsome. M.B., B.S.
Surveyor and Chief Sanitary	
Inspector	- G.K. Foster. M.S.I.A., A.I.W.E.
Deputy Sanitary Inspector	- B. Barker. M.S.I.A., A.R.San. I.
Housing Assistant	- W.H. Green.
Housing Inspector	- M.M. Anderson.
Engineering Assistants	- G. Kneen and B.G. Foster.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Long Ashton Rural District Council.

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the district during the past year. The information therein is, as far as possible in conformity with the requirements of the Minister of Health as laid down in Circular 2/50 dated 25th January, 1950.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area.....	46,602 acres.
Population (census 1931).....	20,378
Registrar General's estimate of population to the middle of 1949.....	24,480
Number of inhabited houses to the end of 1949.....	7,425
Rateable value.....	£172,899
Sum represented by a penny rate.....	£657

There are no important changes to note as regards the social conditions and general characteristics of the area.

### VITAL STATISTICS

	M	F	Total	
<u>Live Births:</u> Legitimate	207	223	430	Birth rate (per 1,000 of estimated population) 18.09
Illegitimate	3	10	13	
Totals	<u>210</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>443</u>	

<u>Still Births:</u> Legitimate	6	3	9	Still birth rate (per 1,000 live and still births). 19.9
Illegitimate	NIL	NIL	NIL	
Totals	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>9</u>	

	M	F	Total	
Deaths	127	129	256	Death rate (per 1,000 of the estimated population) 10.4

Deaths of Infants under one year of age: <sup>total</sup> 10 (all legitimate)  
One case of 9 months of age died from pneumonia, all the other nine were due to premature birth or congenital defects and abnormalities.

Death rate of all infants per 1,000 live births 11.9  
Death rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 live births is the same, there being no deaths of illegitimate infants under one year of age



Deaths from puerperal causes.....NIL.  
Deaths from Measles (all ages)..... 1.  
Deaths from Whooping Cough.....NIL.  
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).....NIL.  
Deaths from Cancer (all varieties)..... 44

The total number of live births (443) is slightly larger than in 1948 (419).  
The birth rate (18.09) is higher than in 1948 (16.8)  
The birth rate for England and Wales this year is 16.7.

The total number of deaths (256) is slightly higher than last year (248).  
The death rate (10.4) is nearly the same as last year (10.2).  
The death rate for England and Wales this year is 10.8.  
The Infant Mortality rate (11.9) is the same as last year and is very low indeed.  
The Infant Mortality rate for England and Wales this year is 32.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Tuberculosis.	2	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1
Influenza.	3	Appendicitis	1
Measles.	1	Other digestive diseases.	2
Syphilitic diseases.	1	Nephritis.	9
Cancer (all varieties)	44	Maternal Causes.	1
Intra-cranial vascular diseases.	34	Premature birth.	2
Heart diseases.	90	Congenital malformation and other abnormalities.	6
Other diseases of Circulatory system.	7	Bronchitis.	6
Pneumonia.	7	Suicide.	3
Other respiratory diseases.	2	Road Traffic Accidents.	2
		Other violent causes.	6
		All other causes.	26

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable diseases.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Notifications.</u>	<u>Removals to Hospital.</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
Scarlet fever.	24	10	-
Pneumonia.	11	1	7
Erysipelas.	1	-	-
Enteric Fever.	1	1	-
Cerebro Spinal fever.	3	3	-
Food Poisoning.	3	3	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.	5	5	-
Measles.	388	-	1
Whooping Cough.	119	-	-
<u>Totals.</u>	<u>555</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>8</u>

Measles notifications show that there have been many cases of this disease involving most of the parishes in the area. Whooping Cough has been fairly prevalent also. There have been more cases of Scarlet Fever than last year but not a single notification of diptheria. The one case of Enteric Fever notified proved not to be that disease.

/Of the





Of the five notifications of Poliomyelitis, one was not confirmed and two cases notified as Cerebro-spinal fever were not confirmed. There were no deaths of any of these diseases and only one of measles. All the Poliomyelitis cases recovered.

#### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.

The decline in the number of notifications and deaths from diphtheria continues to be very satisfactory and emphasises the value and efficiency of the immunization of children against the disease.

The number of children in this area having immunization injections during the year is as follows:-

<u>Under 5 years of age.</u> <u>1st. &amp; 2nd. Injections.</u>	<u>Five to fifteen years.</u>	<u>Reinforcing</u> <u>Injections</u> <u>during "School</u> <u>Life".</u>
199.	46.	188.

Children under five years of age are dealt with by private practitioners. Those over five by the County School Medical Officers.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

	<u>Notifications.</u>		<u>Removals to</u> <u>Sanatoria.</u>		<u>Deaths.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Respiratory.	18	15	7	5	1	1
Non-respiratory.	5	3	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Totals.	23	18	7	5	1	1
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	

#### NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS IN AGE PERIODS.

<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>Notifications.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1st. Year.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 5 years.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 15 years.	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 25 years.	5	4	-	2	1	-	-	-
25 to 35 years.	4	4	-	1	-	1	-	-
35 to 45 years.	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
45 to 55 years.	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 to 65 years.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
<u>Totals.</u>	18	15	5	3	1	1	-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	

The number of deaths is unusually small, but the notifications were 3 more than last year. There is still a shortage of sanatorium beds and, if possible, a longer stay at sanatoria would probably be beneficial to many sufferers from the disease. Tuberculosis dispensaries for this area are, as before, at The Central Clinic, Tower Hill, Bristol, and Old Street, Clevedon.





### General Provision of Health Services.

Laboratory facilities are provided at the County Hall, Taunton, and at the Bristol Public Health Laboratory, Canynge Hall, Whatley Road, Bristol, 8. Hospital treatment and isolation for infectious diseases is provided at Ham Green Hospital, Near Pill. The arrangements for medical and surgical hospital treatment are now under the control of the Regional Hospital Board; ambulance facilities and nursing in the homes, child welfare and maternity are all dealt with by the County Authority, as also are the treatment centres and clinics. Legislation in the area is unchanged.



W A T E R   S U P P L Y .

1.        (a).    The water supply of the area has generally been satisfactory in quality, but there is still room for improvement in some parts of the District.
- (b).    There was a shortage of water during the summer months at Barrow Hill, Barrow Gurney and Clapton-in-Gordano through the drying up of wells and springs and water was hauled to these areas during the drought period. There appeared to be no appreciable shortage of water elsewhere in the district. The Council's borehole supplies at Yatton and Winford were unaffected by the drought and consumers were not restricted.
11.       Fifty-five samples of water from main and other supplies were bacteriologically examined, the results being as follows:-
  - (a).    Supplies owned by the Council.
    1.       Winford Parochial Supply.    Raw water.    No treatment installed.    3 samples taken.    All excellent.
    2.       Dundry Temporary Supply.    Raw water.    No treatment installed.    4 samples taken.    2 excellent, 2 fair.
    3.       Clapton-in-Gordano Temporary Supply.    Raw water passing through crushed limestone.    5 samples taken.    3 excellent, 2 unsatisfactory.
    4.       Weston-in-Gordano Parochial Supply.    Raw water.    No treatment installed.    14 Samples taken.    6 excellent, 8 unsatisfactory.
    5.       Yatton Parochial Supply.    Treatment by chlorination.    7 samples treated water excellent.
  - (b).    Private piped supplies.
    1.       Lodge Lane Supply, Wraxall.    Raw water.    No treatment installed.    3 samples taken.    1 excellent, 2 unsatisfactory.
    2.       Tyntesfield Estate Supply, Wraxall.    Raw water.    No treatment installed.    3 samples taken - all excellent.
    3.       Black Rock Quarries Supply, North Weston.    Raw water and treatment by chlorination.    7 samples taken.    1 sample raw water excellent, 1 fair and 2 unsatisfactory.    3 samples treated water excellent.



(c). Other piped supplies.

Pond Head Spout, Pill.

Raw water. No treatment installed. 9 samples taken. 6 samples unsatisfactory, 1 fair and 2 excellent.

111. CONTAMINATION BY LEAD.

No action has been necessary in this respect.

IV. ACTION IN RESPECT OF CONTAMINATION.

1. POND HEAD SPOUT, PILL.

This piped spring supply which continually discharges from a standpipe in the village of Pill was found to be badly polluted. The supply was originally given to the village, by an estate owner, many years ago and some thirty houses continued to use this gratuitous supply although Company's mains were available.

Considerable effort was made to trace the source of the contamination but without success. The spring issues from the Dolomitic Conglomerate formation and is regarded as suspicious, as there are several possible sources of contamination.

Although a warning notice was erected near the Spout, and an alternative supply provided by standpipe from the Company's main, the use of the contaminated water continued and was a potential source of danger, particularly to children. The cutting off of the supply at the source and turning the water into an adjacent stream was unsuccessful through the supply being turned on again by persons unknown.

Endeavours to protect the health of the consumers, met with strong local opposition, which was supported by the press and a parish protest meeting was held.

Owners of properties were ultimately required to have the main supply laid on, and the Spout was enclosed in an iron grill to prevent the public using the water therefrom.

2. WESTON-in-GORDANO PAROCHIAL SUPPLY.

As this spring supply was periodically polluted, it was chlorinated and the reservoir was emptied and cleansed.

3. BLACK ROCK QUARRIES SUPPLY, NORTH WESTON.

This privately owned piped supply, derived from a well and borehole, was polluted at intervals and chlorination at the supply tank was resorted to. Some of the contamination was due to the non cleansing of galvanized pipes prior to their being used in pumping the borehole supply to the supply tank.





4. WELL SUPPLY, CHAPEL BARTON, NAILSEA.  
A common well supplying six houses became heavily contaminated but, as a main extension to the area would have entailed a heavy annual guarantee, the Council themselves laid a service pipe across intervening land. All the houses concerned are now using the main supply.
5. HIGHRIDGE COMMON, BISHOPSWORTH.  
Owing to pollution of some private wells, a main extension was carried out by the Bristol Waterworks Company under guarantee by the Council. Two of the owners concerned, however, undertook to pay the Council half of the amount of the annual guarantee.
6. LODGE LANE SUPPLY, WRAXALL.  
This estate supply, derived from the coal measures, was again the cause of concern owing to frequent unsatisfactory bacteriological reports.  
  
A Company's main, however, serves this area and some houses previously relying on the estate supply are now connected thereto. It is hoped that the other consumers will ultimately avail themselves of the main supply and that the estate supply will be abandoned.



V. Particulars of the number of dwelling houses and population supplied from water mains

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>Area in Acres</u>	<u>Approx Population at 31.12.49</u>	<u>No of Houses</u>	<u>No of Houses Supplied direct from mains</u>	<u>No of Houses Supplied from Standpipes</u>	<u>No of Population Supplied direct from Mains</u>	<u>No of Population Supplied from Standpipes.</u>
Abbots Leigh	2260	759	179	158	-	670	-
Backwell	2929	2116	603	459	17	1611	59
Barrow Gurney	2064	600	99	30	8	355	28
Bishopsworth	796	2680	689	655	20	2548	78
Brockley	1148	460	124	115	3	426	11
Clapton-in-Gordano	1355	180	65	11	12	29	32
Cleeve	1013	551	147	118	9	442	34
Dundry	2897	997	263	31	24	117	91
Easton-in-Gordano	1765	2694	858	773	19	2427	92
Flax Burton	630	212	70	60	6	182	18
Kenn	830	335	67	30	4	150	21
Kingston Seymour	2652	279	65	11	18	47	77
Long Ashton	4190	3060	861	816	19	2896	67
Nailsea	2866	2625	772	539	28	1832	99
North Weston	1063	1199	478	87	248	218	622
Portbury	2845	441	128	68	6	234	21
Tickenham	1629	643	195	159	13	525	43
Walton-in-Gordano	908	240	96	33	-	82	-
Weston-in-Gordano	708	190	66	42	13	121	37
Winford	3340	1278	314	176	29	716	118
Wraxall	4125	1823	521	456	2	1596	7
Yatton	4589	2868	765	690	18	2587	67
Total	<u>46602</u>	<u>26230</u>	<u>7425</u>	<u>5517</u>	<u>516</u>	<u>19811</u>	<u>1622</u>



EXTENSIONS OR IMPROVEMENTS OF SUPPLIES DURING THE YEAR:-

1. Kenn.  
Extension of 3" main from the Council's Yatton Parochial Supply along Clevedon Road towards Kenn Court Farm.
2. Easton-in-Gordano.  
Extension of 3" main by Portishead Water Company from Markham to Haberfield under guarantee from Council.
3. Kingston Seymour.  
Extension of Council's Yatton Parochial Supply to centre of village.
4. Bishopsworth.  
Extension of main by Bristol Waterworks Company along portion of Highridge Common under guarantee from Council.
5. Backwell.  
Extension of main by Council to hamlet of Downside. Supply obtained in bulk from Axbridge Rural District Council.

FUTURE PROPOSALS.

<u>Priority Group.</u>	<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Scheme.</u>	<u>Estimated Cost (1949 Prices.)</u>
1.	<u>Yatton.</u>	Proposed bulk supply from the Bristol Waterworks Company who propose extending a 10 inch main from their Chelvey Pumping Station to the Yatton reservoir. It is also proposed to extend the Company's limits of supply to include all parts of the Rural District.	£15,100
1.	<u>Barrow Gurney.</u>	Modified scheme for extension of main from Winford by Bristol Waterworks Company under guarantee, to Barrow Hill and district. It is proposed to transfer the Winford undertaking to the Bristol Waterworks Company. The Scheme is held up through insufficiency of guarantees from prospective consumers.	£ 4,500
1.	<u>Dundry.</u>	Provision of mains to Dundry for bulk supply from	£35,591

/Bristol





Dundry.  
(Contd.)

Bristol Waterworks  
Company.

This parish also may soon  
be in the statutory area  
of supply of the Bristol  
Waterworks Company.

- |    |                                 |   |         |
|----|---------------------------------|---|---------|
| 1. | <u>Tickenham.</u>               | 6" main extension by<br>Clevedon Water Company<br>to Stone Edge Batch and<br>Tickenham Hill to replace<br>existing 1½" - 1" diameter service to give<br>improved supply to this<br>area and for the Council's<br>proposed housing site. | £ 2,680 |
| 1. | <u>Kingston<br/>Seymour.</u>    | Further main extensions<br>from centre of village<br>to outer areas of Council's<br>Yatton Parochial Supply.  | £ 2,050 |
| 1. | <u>Clapton-in-<br/>Gordano.</u> | Extension of main to<br>village by Portishead<br>Water Company.   | £ 9,387 |
| 2. | <u>North Weston.</u>            | Provision of main supply<br>by Portishead Water<br>Company to replace<br>existing private stand-<br>pipe supply to Redcliffe<br>Bay area.   | £21,218 |

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

(Extension of sewers, new works, etc. during year).

YATTON.

Work commenced on the construction  
of the new rising main to a sea  
outfall, and on the installation of  
more powerful pumps at the sewage  
pumping station.

The rising main had been laid and  
early delivery of the pumping plant  
was expected at the end of the year.

No new sewers, other than minor extensions to new  
housing estates, and no new sewage disposal works,  
were constructed during the year.



The following works are included in Priority Group 1 of the Council's List of proposed sewerage and sewage disposal Schemes:-

<u>PARISH.</u>	<u>SCHEME.</u>	<u>ESTIMATED COST.</u> <u>(1949 prices).</u>
<u>Portbury.</u>	Sewerage scheme to village in conjunction with new housing estate. Scheme prepared and submitted to Ministry of Health for approval.	£5,200
<u>Long Ashton.</u>	Additions and improvements to Cambridge House sewage disposal works. Tender accepted by Council in December, subject to the approval of the South-West Regional Hospital Board.	£1,200
<u>Nailsea.</u>	Sewerage and sewage disposal for the parish. Scheme prepared and submitted to Ministry of Health. Public enquiry delayed through difficulties in connection with procuring sites for the pumping stations.	£83,000
<u>Flax Bourton.</u>	Sewerage and sewage disposal Scheme for village and housing estate.	£5,300
<u>Kenn.</u>	Sewerage and sewage disposal Scheme for portion of village and new housing estate. Scheme submitted to Ministry of Health and County Council for approval.	£5,720

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Instances have occurred of house drainage discharging into and polluting streams and ditches, particularly in the village of Kenn. A Sewerage Scheme for this area would be of great assistance in alleviating these sources of pollution.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Your District is very free from smoke and grit nuisances. A dust extraction plant was installed at a quarry at Failand, following complaints to the Council of a dust nuisance in the neighbourhood.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection of house refuse and salvage by the Council's own vehicles and labour commenced on the 1st April, and the frequency of the collection of house refuse was subsequently increased to not less than one collection a fortnight in all parishes in the District - the more thickly populated parishes having a weekly collection. The collection of waste paper and other forms of salvage was subsequently stopped owing to loss of markets, following the cancellation of directions by the Board of Trade.

The collection commenced with two vehicles of 7/8 cubic yard capacity and a third vehicle of 10 cubic yard capacity was placed on order during the year.



Owing to the non-delivery of the cesspool emptying vehicle from the manufacturers, it has, unfortunately, not been possible to institute the proposed cesspool emptying service.

### H O U S I N G.

#### Provision of New Housing Accommodation During the Year.

	<u>Houses erected during year.</u>		<u>Houses in course of erection at 31/12/49.</u>		<u>Conversion to flats or dwellings.</u>	<u>Temporary such as Army Huts, etc.</u>
	<u>Perm:</u>	<u>Tempy:</u>	<u>Perm:</u>	<u>Tempy:</u>		
Local Authority.	100	Nil.	62	Nil.	Nil.	49
Private Enterprise.	21	Nil.	16	Nil.	13	Nil.
	121	Nil.	78	Nil.	13	49

#### ERECTION OF HOUSES BY COUNCIL.

The location of the houses completed and in course of erection is summarised as follows:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Houses Completed.</u>	<u>Houses under Construction at 31/12/49.</u>
Backwell	18	-
Bishopsworth	-	12
Cleeve	4	-
Dundry	16	-
Easton-in-Gordano	4	8
Kingston Seymour	6	-
Long Ashton	-	22
Nailsea	-	2
North Weston	6	6
Yatton	46	12
Totals.	100	62

#### HOUSES ERECTED BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

At the end of the year, the position was as follows:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Houses or Bungalows Completed.</u>	<u>Houses or Bungalows under Construction.</u>
Abbots Leigh	1	-
Backwell	1	2
Bishopsworth	2	-
Brockley	1	-
Cleeve	1	1
Clapton-in-Gordano	1	2
Dundry	2	1
Long Ashton	1	2
Nailsea	1	2
Portbury	1	-
Tickenham	6	2
Winford	1	-
Wraxall	1	2
Yatton	1	2
Totals.	21	16







## PROVISION OF TEMPORARY HOUSING ACCOMMODATION BY COUNCIL.

A further 49 temporary dwellings have been provided by the adaptation of huts at Brockley, Easton-in-Gordano, and Lulsgate ex-Army or Air Force Camps, the latter being intended for the accommodation of displaced Polish families.

## RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

The position of the Survey, which entails the inspection of some 2,805 houses of a rateable value of £16. and under, is summarised at the 31st December 1949, as follows:-

Number of houses inspected and recorded.	...	2323
Satisfactory in all respects.	...	629
Houses with minor defects.	...	386
Houses requiring repairs or structural alterations.		998
Houses suitable for reconditioning under Housing (Rural Workers) Acts or for acquisition.	...	574
Houses unfit for human habitation.	...	310

The location of the unfit houses is as under:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Number of Parish Unfit Houses.</u>	<u>Number of Unfit Houses.</u>
Abbots Leigh	3	Flax Bourton 8
Backwell	16	Kenn 7
Bishopsworth	3	Kingston Seymour 10
Brockley	3	Long Ashton 31
Cleeve	7	Nailsea 17
Dundry	23	Tickenham 17
Easton-in-		Walton-in-Gordano 15
Gordano	63	Winford 25
		Wraxall 24
		Yatton 38
		<hr/> Total: 310 <hr/>

## HOUSING NEEDS AND CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

There is still a large deficiency of houses to meet the demand - the number of applicants for housing accommodation at the end of the year being 979.

Some 320 houses are required to replace those unfit for habitation, and to abate overcrowding, in addition to those required to re-house families living under unsatisfactory conditions, e.g. two families living in same house, etc.

32 unfit houses, which are subject to demolition orders and undertakings, are temporarily occupied on licence under the Defence Regulations.

## HOUSING ACT, 1949

No applications from owners for grants towards the cost of conversion of buildings to dwellings or for the improvement of existing dwellings under the provisions of Section 2 of the Act had been made up to the end of the year.



ACTION DURING THE YEAR UNDER HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Number of Houses represented to the Council as unfit for human habitation.	15
Number of Houses on which Demolition Orders were made.	5
Number of Houses in respect of which undertakings given by the owners not to use for human habitation were accepted.	11
Number of Houses in respect of which undertakings given by the owners to carry out repairs were accepted.	5
Number of Houses in respect of which undertakings to carry out repairs were cancelled after being made fit for human habitation.	2
Number of Houses in Confirmed Clearance Areas demolished:-	
By Owners	1
By Council in default of Owners.	7
Number of Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	Nil.
Number of Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs under Section 9 of the Act.	3
Number of Houses rendered fit after service of formal notices under Section 9:-	
By Owners	2
By Council in default of Owners.	Nil.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT FOR  
THE YEAR 1949.

<u>INSPECTIONS.</u>	No. of complaints received during the year.	...	154
	No. of houses, premises, etc. inspected.	...	1434
	No. of houses disinfected, or to which disinfectants were supplied.	...	25
	No. of visits in connection with cases of infectious disease.	...	36
	Tuberculosis disinfections.	...	17
	No. of cases of bedding disinfected.	...	37
	No. of scabies baths arranged for infected persons.	...	18
	No. of verminous premises cleansed.	...	6
<u>SEWERS AND DRAINS.</u>	No. of sewers repaired or cleansed.	...	10
<u>HOUSE DRAINS.</u>	No. of existing houses connected to sewers.	...	7
	No. of house drains repaired or cleansed.	...	31
	No. of drains re-laid.	...	22
	No. of new piped drains laid.	...	244





<u>EARTH CLOSETS,</u>	No. of privies abolished.	...	...	...	2
<u>WATER CLOSETS,</u>	No. of cesspools reconstructed or cleansed.	...	...	...	29
<u>AND CESSPOOLS.</u>	No. of new cesspools.	...	...	...	66
	No. of cesspools abolished.	...	...	...	4
	No. of new water closets.	...	...	...	214
	No. of new water closet pans or repairs.	...	...	...	23
	No. of new earth closets constructed.	...	...	...	1
	No. of earth closets converted into water closets.	...	...	...	2
<u>NEW DWELLINGS.</u>	No. of new permanent houses completed and occupied...	...	...	...	121
	No. of new houses supplied by main water.	...	...	...	119
	No. of new houses supplied by wells or cisterns.	...	...	...	2
<u>WATER SUPPLY.</u>	No. of samples of water taken for examination...	...	...	...	69
	No. of existing houses connected to water mains.	...	...	...	118
	No. of new wells.	...	...	...	-
	No. of wells or cisterns cleansed or repaired...	...	...	...	3
	No. of contaminated wells closed.	...	...	...	30
	No. of dairies, cowsheds and milkshops inspected..	...	...	...	62
	No. of bakehouses inspected.	...	...	...	12
	No. of slaughterhouses inspected.	...	...	...	-
	No. of factories inspected.	...	...	...	23
	No. of statutory notices served.	...	...	...	6
	Ministry of Health inquiries held.	...	...	...	-
	Legal proceedings taken.	...	...	...	4

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Owing to the numerous other duties and the shortage of suitably trained technical staff, it has again not been possible to carry out frequent inspections of factories in accordance with Sections 1 to 7 of the Act. Every effort has, however, been made to require the remedy of any sanitary defects when reported by H. M. Inspectors of Factories.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1949, ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

#### PART 1 of THE ACT.

#### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(1)				
(1).Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4,and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	16	12	-	-
(11).Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.	40	28	-	-
(111).Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	56	30	-	-





## 2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.	No. of cases in which defects were found.			No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.	
	Found.	Remedied.	To H.M. Insp-ector.	Referred by H.M. Inspector.	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors. (S.6)					
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient					
(b) unsuitable or defective					
(c) not separate for sexes.					
Other offences against the Act.					
(Not including offences relating to Outwork).					
TOTAL.					

# ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No infestations of bed bugs were found in dwelling-houses and consequently no action with regard to eradication was necessary.

Several requests were received from householders for assistance in exterminating cluster fly infestations and these were suitably dealt with.

FOOD.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The following meat was condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption:-

<u>MEAT.</u>				<u>OTHER FOODS.</u>
Beef	...	40	$1\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Small Quantities.
Bacon	...	3	$\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	
Pork	...	8	$\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	
Mutton	...	78	$\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	
Canned Meat	...	1	tin.	

## SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

No. of licensed slaughter-houses in District.	...	2
No. of registered slaughter-houses in District	...	9
No. of slaughter-houses in use where horses are slaughtered for human consumption.	...	Nil.
No. of registered knackers yards in District.	...	Nil.



The slaughter-houses are still out of use owing to centralised slaughtering under the control of the Ministry of Food taking place at abattoirs at Weston-super-Mare and Bristol, which are situated outside the Rural District. Consequently no carcasses of animals for sale for human consumption are inspected by your Officers at the time of slaughter.

Many inspections have been made of shops and places where food is prepared or sold, and appropriate action taken to improve conditions where necessary.

ICE CREAM.  
(HEAT TREATMENT ETC. ) REGULATIONS.

No. of premises registered for:-

(1). Manufacture of Ice Cream

(a) By Hot Mix Method	...	2
(b) By Cold Mix Method	...	5

(2). Sale only                      ...                      24

Heat treatment plant was installed by one small manufacturer during the year. The sale of wrapped ice cream by the small retailer appears to be on the increase.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

<u>(a)</u> <u>No. of</u> <u>outbreaks.</u>	<u>(b)</u> <u>No. of</u> <u>cases.</u>	<u>(c)</u> <u>No. of</u> <u>deaths.</u>	<u>(d)</u> <u>Organisms</u> <u>responsible.</u>	<u>(e)</u> <u>Food</u> <u>involved.</u>
1	3	Nil	Proteus Vulgaris.	Cooked pickled beef tongue.

A sample of the brine in which the tongue had been pickled also showed the presence in small numbers of the responsible organisms. Persons eating the tongue shortly after cooking suffered no ill effects.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

The Council decided to adopt the model Bye-laws of the Ministry of Food as to Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in the Open Air. Application was made to the Ministry for their adoption in the model form.

MILK AND DAIRIES.  
(At 30th September, 1949).

(1) Total number of registered dairy farms.	...	386
(2) No. of retailers.	...	116
(3) No. of producer-retailers included in (2).	...	92
(4) No. of licenced pasteurisation plants.	...	1
(5) No. of licenced tuberculin tested bottling establishments.	...	5
(6) No. of licenced accredited bottling establishments.	...	Nil.
(7) No. of supplementary licences for sale of tuberculin tested milk....		1
(8) No. of Dealers non-bottling licences for sale of tuberculin tested milk.		1
(9) No. of Dealers licences for sale of pasteurised milk...		1





(From 1st October, 1949).

(a) Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

- |                                       |     |    |
|---------------------------------------|-----|----|
| (1) No. of Registered Distributors.   | ... | 17 |
| (2) No. of Registered Dairy premises. | ... | 9  |

(b) Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

- |  |        |   |
|--|--------|---|
| (1) No. of Dealer's licences to use the<br>Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested".                  | ...    | 6 |
| (2) No. of Dealer's Supplementary licences to<br>use the Special Designation<br>"Tuberculin Tested". | ... .. | 3 |

(c) Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised)  
Milk Regulations, 1949.

- |   |     |   |
|---|-----|---|
| (1) No. of Dealer's licences to use the<br>Special Designation "Pasteurised".               | ... | 1 |
| (2) No. of Dealer's Supplementary licences to<br>use the Special Designation "Pasteurised". | ... | 1 |
| (3) No. of Dealer's Supplementary licences to<br>use the Special Designation "Sterilised".  | ... | 2 |

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The information given in this report shows that the work of the Public Health Department covers a great deal of ground and continues to increase every year.

The completion of the post-war housing programme seems to be almost as far off as ever, the number of new applicants for houses each year being considerably greater than those built, though the provision of temporary dwellings at the various camps rather obscures the deficiency, but only for a time. This district, however, compares favourably with most other rural districts, in proportion to their population, in the number of permanent dwellings, as well as temporary ones, provided, but it has not been possible to deal adequately with the demolition of totally unfit houses, or the repairs and constructional improvements needed to render many others habitable, which are in a less hopeless condition, but which at present are a serious danger to the health and comfort of their occupants.

There are also a number of water supply and sewage disposal schemes, planned, still to be dealt with, though progress is continually being made.

With the above exceptions, the health and sanitary conditions of the district continues to be satisfactory and in conclusion I should like to thank your Council for its continued confidence and consideration to me in the performance of my duties and the Officers of the Health and other departments for their very willing help and co-operation.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

HERBERT NEWSOME.

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,  
Flax Bourton,  
Near Bristol.

August, 1950.





Many water supply and sewage disposal schemes have also been planned and it is hoped some of these will be carried out in the coming year, but the shortage of labour and materials is still a principal cause of delay in all the above matters.

In spite of all difficulties, the health and sanitary condition of the district continues to be satisfactory, due, I am satisfied, largely to the constant efforts and support of your Council backed by the able and conscientious work of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector and staff of this department.

May I, therefore, in conclusion thank the Council for its continued confidence and consideration in the performance of my duties and the Officers of the Health and other departments for their willing and able help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

HERBERT NEWSOME,

Medical Officer of Health.

Council Offices,  
Flax Bourton,  
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